## FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### **NEWSLETTER**

fremonthistorical society.com

**JULY 2014** Volume 12, Issue 4

# PROGRAM FOR JULY 20, 2014 COTOPAXI JEWISH COLONY – 1882 - 1884BY NANCY OSWALD, AUTHOR AND LOCAL RANCHER

Nancy Oswald, Cotopaxi resident for many years and a very prolific author, will present the program on July 20, 2014 Come and hear the story of the Cotopaxi Jewish Colony!

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## PROGRAM AT: SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH,

801 SHERIDAN AVE., CAÑON CITY, CO

2:00 P.M.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED PUBLIC WELCOME





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Nelson Moore. Colony Historian, and Cotopaxi resident, with Jerry Klinger (red shirt) at the colony gravesite, April 29, 2011

A special Thank You to Jerry and Judy Klinger with the Jewish American Society For Historic Preservation (JASHP)

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Thank you to all the new members who have joined this year - we are glad you have joined us. Dues cover Dec. 31, 2013 to Jan. 1, 2015.

We always accept donations in any amount, and are very grateful for any Memorial gifts you may wish to give - this is our pledge to you - good programs, historic interest in the landmarks of the County, and scholarship awards that will help some young person attend college.

Fremont County Historical Society, P.O. Box 965, Cañon City, CO 81215 fremonthistorical society.com

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BOOSTERS FOR THE JAIL PROJECT ARE:



## Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company

www.ccvgoldmine.com



#### PROSPECT HEIGHTS JAIL GRANT FUNDERS:

The Colorado Historic Fund grant of \$7,500.00 is for the Historic Structure Assessment of the jail. This is a preliminary step in determining the work that must be done to renovate the jail. We need it safe and secure for the Public to enjoy.

#### LIFETIME MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

We are pleased to WELCOME these folks to our membership roles as lifetime members.
We encourage you to also consider a lifetime membership which finances many of the projects the Society is involved with:

Beverly Embry
Bernie and Marilyn Felix
Wilma Bard

### GREENWOOD PIONEER CEMETERY COMMITTEE

We received a grant from History Colorado Fund for producing a Master Plan for the cemetery. The Preservation Studio in Colorado Springs, Charise Boomsma is conducting a class on Saturday, July 12, 2014 on the intricacies of learning how to inventory memorial markers in the cemetery, and inventorying all the stones and burials in a consistent and thorough document for the ages.

WE URGE ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CEMETERY CLASS TO PLEASE CALL AND RESERVE A SPOT: JULY 12, 2014, 10:00 A.M. UNTIL 3:00. The class will move out to the cemetery about 1:00 p.m., so wear heavy shoes (cactus proof), bug spray, hats, and gloves and be prepared to cool off in the shade occasionally. SEE YOU THERE!

OCTOBER 9-13, 2014/

On August 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a program put on by Tom Monaco and Carol McNew at the John C. Fremont Library about the "Yankees and Rebels" in Greenwood Cemetery.

Continued from page 1:

#### Julius Schwartz, March 2, 1883 LETTER TO HEAS:

"Now the facts are, that only six of the houses are constructed on town lots,"

(so this should be read - six of the shacks Saltiel built were within the Cotopaxi townsite.)

## "THE HOUSES ARE DOUBLE-BOARDED WITH TAR PAPER BETWEEN THEM, ARE SIXTEEN BY TWENTY FEET AND ARE TWELVE FEET HIGH IN THE CENTER"

in other words....they were clapboard/tarpaper shacks....

Local rancher, educator, historian and author Nancy Oswald has written her fiction novel about the Jewish Colony. To read an excerpt of her book, *Nothing Here But Stones/ ask her at the program!* Excerpt from the website by Nelson Moore: www.cotopaxicolony.com

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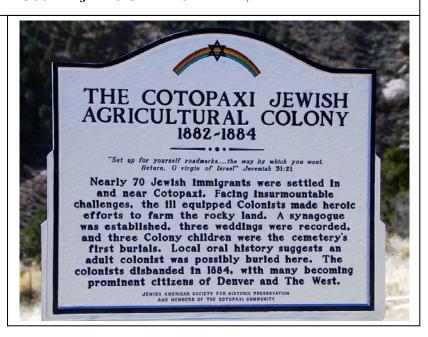
#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**



The Cotopaxi Cemetery is located directly behind the Consolidated School House on County Road 12 – a short ½ mile from the Highway 50 turn-off. The Cemetery is cared for by the Cotopaxi Cemetery Committee, and is a dry-land, open space which looks down on the children playing in the school yard.

Many of the burials in this Cemetery are families who have lived in this valley and have descendents who still live here. A closeknit community has always been tied by both institutions – the school and the cemetery.

The Jewish plot is well marked, and very interesting to visit if you would like to see the original bronze mortuary marker: "RUSSIAN JEWS GRAVES" "1882"/.



### LINKS OF INTEREST: FREMONT COUNTY WEBSITE:

www.fremontco.com/heritage

Fremont County Heritage Commission: fremontheritage@gmail.com

FALL FESTIVAL EMAIL:

www.fremontfallfestival@gmail.com

FALL FESTIVAL WEBSITE:

Fremont County Historical Society Website:

www.fremonthistoricalsociety.com

Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center phone number: 719 269 9036 Email: <a href="mailto:lmstudts@canoncity.org">lmstudts@canoncity.org</a> Friends of the Museum and History Center: <a href="mailto:www.museumfriends.info">www.museumfriends.info</a>

Florence, CO website: www.florencecolorado.org

Rockvale website: www.rockvaleco.org

Brookside website:

http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/TownofBrookside/CBON/1251628955751

City of Cañon City: www.canoncity.org

Canyonland Hikers and Walkers: pndwalker@bresnan.net

Prison Museum - Stacy Kline - office@prisonmuseum.org

Penrose COC: 372 3994 website: www.penrosechamber.com

Cañon City Chamber of Commerce: www.royalgorgetravel.com

www.canoncity.com

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Teachers from across the US, as part of GSA (Geological Society of America) GeoVentures, visited Cañon City again this year to experience our rich geology and paleontology. They will use the information gathered on a 5- day trek across Colorado in their classrooms to make Earth Science come alive for students of all grades. Local hosts were Melissa Smeins and Michele Gandee of the BLM, and Cindy Smith and Dan Grenard of CCGC.

The group of teachers who learned a great deal about the geology of our area from local leaders.



This is the great group of folks from the Pueblo area who came to PCC to hear the story of our Historic Churches in Cañon City. They later toured the historic areas of downtown and enjoyed a full day of Historic Cañon City.

#### Continued from Page 1:

#### OUR SPEAKER FOR THE PROGRAM ON JULY 20, 2014 – NANCY OSWALD

Nancy Oswald is a retired teacher and writer living on a family ranch south of Cotopaxi where she and her husband raise grass finished beef. Her book, *Nothing Here But Stones*, is based on the Jewish colony of Cotopaxi in 1882-1884. It tells a story of hope, faith, and family love in a setting of struggle and hardship. The remains of the colony are along the southern boundary of the family property which sparked Nancy's interest in writing the book. *Nothing Here But Stones* won several awards including the Willa Literary Award. For more about Nancy and her books, visit www.nancyoswald.com.

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The City of Cañon City is pleased to print the Fremont County Historical Society Newsletter as a contribution.

Thanks for all you do for Fremont County History!











